

IN HONOR OF DR. JEFF BRAFF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize the life, career, and public service of Dr. Jeff Braff. Dr. Braff passed away on January 16th. He will be remembered for his optometric services to the city of Salinas, his contribution to political change in the Central Coast of California, and as my personal friend and doctor.

Jeff grew up working in his father's contact lens laboratory in Arcadia, California. He attended the University of California at Berkeley where he earned a degree in optometry in 1964. After graduating, he traveled to India where he helped set up the country's first contact lens fabricating laboratory.

After returning to the United States, Jeff was drafted in to the US Army and served as an optometrist at the Fort Ord military base. He completed his military service in 1972 and moved to Salinas where he practiced optometry for the next 37 years.

As the representative for the California Optometric Association and the Monterey Bay Optometric Association, Jeff played an invaluable role in local politics in the Central Coast of California. Jeff volunteered for many political campaigns, including for Leon Panetta's first election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1976 and my own run in 1976 for the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. Jeff was also instrumental in drawing support for several political campaigns in Bainbridge Island, Washington.

His ability to draw support to local elections and political change earned him a following. "Jeff's Group" became an informal name given to those he could count on to show up and wave signs, hand out coffees, and recruit neighbors to support the many causes he was involved in.

In a document entitled "How I Want to be Remembered" Jeff wrote: "Between being born and dying, he didn't take some things seriously that should have been, took some things seriously that shouldn't have, was getting the hang of love, and anger, and play, and all that; he tinkered with life, and did OK."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pain that I announce the passing of Jeff. I would like to personally acknowledge his service to the people of California. It was the relationships that he fostered at his practice that kept him invigorated and loving his work. I would like to express my deepest condolences to Sue, his loving wife of 36 years, his son, Zack and his brother, Brian.

RECOGNIZING MRS. KERRIN A. FLOWERS FOR HER SERVICE IN THE MISSISSIPPI HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Mrs. Kerrin A. Flowers, a prominent

Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner serving with the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility and the Family Health Care Clinic in Grenada, MS.

Mrs. Flowers has been a certified RN for 15+ years and began her advanced practice nursing role in 2009. Throughout her career, she has assumed progressive roles of responsibility such as staff nurse, charge nurse, Nurse Manager, and Assistant Director of Nursing. Mrs. Flowers' hard work and dedication earned her the Employee of the Month Award for outstanding job performance.

Mrs. Flowers received an Associate's Degree in Nursing from Mississippi Delta Community College. She later earned a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Delta State University, and a Master's Degree in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women. Mrs. Flowers is dedicated to the improvement of health care, which is evident in her continuing pursuit of advancement studies in dermatology and narcotic substance abuse. Mrs. Flowers has made many contributions to scholarly nurse research, which includes recent presentations in Treatment Therapy for Bronchiolitis and Treatment in Pediatric Patients Diagnosed with Bronchiolitis.

Service to the greater community is another attribute of Mrs. Flowers' career. This is reflected in her service as Chairperson for the Health and Wellness Community Program and her service with the Mississippi Nurses Association, the National Honor Society and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Her participation in a nationwide study earned Mrs. Flowers a Certificate from the National Council of State Board of Nursing.

Mrs. Flowers is married to Fredrick Flowers and is the mother of two sons, Darryl and Deracius Winfield. In her spare time, she enjoys movies and exercising.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Kerrin A. Flowers for her commitment and service to the cause of health care.

STOP TRADING ON CONGRESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I am one of 285 proud cosponsors of H.R. 1148, the original House version of the STOCK Act, which was introduced by my colleague from Minnesota, Mr. WALZ. It is a simple, common-sense bill that would reaffirm the restriction on insider trading by Members of Congress and our staffs, as well as officials within the executive branch. I also heard from dozens of my constituents from across Central New Jersey who support this bill as a necessary first step to restoring the American public's trust in its legislature and in our democracy as a whole.

Unfortunately, despite the overwhelming bipartisan support for this legislation, the majority has brought before us today a watered-down version of the bill that received nearly unanimous support in the United States Senate. While the basic premise of the bill remains intact, I regret that important provisions

such as increased disclosure requirements for so-called "political intelligence consultants" are not included in the bill before us today.

Though unrelated to insider trading, I do support the provision in this measure to prohibit the payment of bonuses to executives at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Like many Americans, I was alarmed to learn last year that ten Fannie and Freddie executives were set to receive more than \$12 million in bonuses. It is inconceivable that the leadership of these organizations, who profited at the expense of millions of middle class Americans who lost their homes, be further rewarded.

While I support this measure, I remain hopeful that the stronger provisions included in the original House version, as well as the version that passed the Senate last week, can be incorporated as this bill continues to move forward.

RECOGNIZING GARY SINDERBRAND FOR HIS SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE CROHN'S AND COLITIS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated service of Mr. Gary Sinderbrand as Chairman of the National Board of Trustees for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America over the last three years.

Joining the National Board of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America in 2003, Mr. Sinderbrand has passionately committed to meeting financial goals and a rigorous research agenda while accomplishing an extraordinary number of professional milestones and achievements.

Mr. Sinderbrand is a veteran of the New York investment banking community and currently serves as managing director with Wells Fargo in Manhattan, New York. He is also an active volunteer pilot for Angel Flight and Veteran's Airlift Command. As a parent of a child with Crohn's disease, Mr. Sinderbrand has shown great commitment and leadership to raising awareness of inflammatory bowel disease, a debilitating disease that currently does not have a cure to eliminate the suffering of over one million Americans.

Under Mr. Sinderbrand's leadership, the Foundation has been able to focus on new research initiatives including the Microbiome Initiative, Genetics Initiative and CCFA Partners, which has helped advance the science and bring us one step closer to cures for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. While we still do not have all the answers, there is hope. An increasing number of genes have been identified, eight in 2007 alone. In 2011, that number grew to more than 70 genes identified, and with new technological advances researchers are working furiously to find cures.

Together, we've made our mark on Capitol Hill with the newly formed Congressional Crohn's & Colitis Caucus promoting awareness and support for the cause. We've identified funding sources at the Department of Defense, National Institutes of Health and have